

HIGH DESERT WARRIOR

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February 3, 2011

Published in the interest of the National Training Center and Fort Irwin community

CG Change Command

The public is invited to the National Training Center and Fort Irwin Change of Command Ceremony between outgoing post commander, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams, and incoming post commander, Brig. Gen. Terry Ferrell at the Post Helipad, Monday/Feb. 7, 3:30 p.m.

Irwin Blood Drive

Fort Irwin community is invited to the post's Blood Drive at the Bloodmobile, which will be located at the Main Post Exchange parking lot, Feb. 9, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Be sure to drink plenty of fluids and bring photo ID with you. For more information, contact Chief Warrant Officer 2 Hess at 380-5421.

Closed On Thursdays

Directorate of Resource Management will be closed for training purposes during Thursday afternoons, starting at 1 p.m. Any questions or concerns, contact Raquel Cisneros at 380-2600.

Vietnam Veterans Salute

The National Training Center and Fort Irwin invites all military veterans who served during the Vietnam War Era (1955-1975) to its 2nd Annual Vietnam Veterans Day Ceremony on March 30, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Highlights include Welcome Ceremony with lapel pins presentation, lunch with the commanding general and Soldiers, group photograph, veterans' benefits information table and military vehicle display. Family members of Vietnam veterans are encouraged to attend. RSVP by March 15 at http://www.irwin.army.mil/cmd_staff/ USAG/Documents/Vietnam.pdf or contact Mark Laury, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security at 380-6372 or email him at mark.laury@us.army.mil.

Job Announcements

On Feb. 18, the Civilian Personnel On-line (CPOL) Employment pages will migrate to Army Civilian Service and will no longer be available on www.cpol.army.mil. Bookmark URL: www.armycivilianservice. com. Apply for positions by clicking on Job Search and follow the instructions on the announcements. It will prompt you to go to either Resumix or USAjobs (USA Staffing). For questions, contact the Civilian Personnel Activity Center office at 380-3077.

Retirement Luncheon

Garrison commander, Colonel James H. Chevallier, invites the Fort Irwin community to a luncheon in honor of Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Harvey and Mrs. Harvey, who will retire at the end of this month, at Reggie's on Feb. 11, 11:30 a.m. Attire is military duty uniform or civilian casual. Cost is \$18. RSVP by calling 380-6872 by tomorrow/Feb. 4.

House representatives visit NTC



CHARLES MELTO

Fort Irwin Soldiers accompany House Armed Services Committee members, Rep. Loretta Sanchez, D-Calif., left, and Rep. Scott Rigell, R-Va., right, as they tour the training area at the National Training Center during a visit to Fort Irwin, Calif. See story and more photos on page 3.

Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance

Voluntary Financial benefits program supports military families

BY CHARLETTA ZAMORA-CRUZ

Fort Irwin Soldier and Family Assistance Center Financial Advisor

The Military has a program that most don't know about. It's called the Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA) Program.

Under the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal 2001, qualifying Service Members can receive up to \$1100 a month under the FSSA Program (DoDI 1341.11, March 2008). FSSA is a voluntary financial benefits program for military families intended to increase a Service Member's Basic Allowance for

Subsistence in order to remove their household from eligibility for SNAP benefits (formerly the food stamp program).

A survey conducted in 1999, showed that about 6,300 military families were on food stamps. That was a dramatic drop from the

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27	28	1	2	3	4	5

ROTATIONAL SOLDIER USE OF POST FACILITIES

■ HEAVY USE | ■ MEDIUM USE | ■ MINIMAL USE

We salute, honor



Source: Directorate of Human Resources National Training Center and Fort Irwin

'An honor to command, serve you'



Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams

They say that "time flies when you're having fun." I'm not sure who "they" are, but they're absolutely right! It's no secret by now that Brig. Gen. Ferrell and I are changing command next week and that Connie, Robert, and I will be leaving the National Training Center and Fort Irwin.

As I thought about what to write in my last edition of "Lead 6 Sends" I couldn't help but think about how quickly my time here passed ... and how much fun I had! Sure, it wasn't all fun and games; what we do here taking care of Soldiers/preparing units for combat — is serious business. But at the same

What is it?

time, the satisfaction that I personally got out of every BUA (battle update assessment), sustainer update, UMP (urban mounted patrol) lane, named operation, Community Service Council meeting, safety brief and AAR (after action review) ... every rotation, while incredibly challenging at times was also "fun" as I saw everything come together. Without fail; every thread, event, and every rotation resulted in a unit that was better prepared for combat than they were when they got here. Plus, I've got thousands of great memories from across Fort Irwin!

So as I thought about what to write about for this last column, I gave serious thought to re-hashing all of my goals; everything that was accomplished to make this a better community and everything that resulted in 20 successful rotations and units/leaders who are trained and ready for combat. As I thought about doing that, I also thought about whom it was that accomplished all of it. You! All of you, all of us accomplished many great things over the past two years. I decided to try and express my thanks for all that you do and the profound affect that you've all had on me.

I told you all coming in that I tried many times during my career to get assigned here. The challenge, the conditions, training units and shaping leaders are some of the things that attracted me. I've seen all of that during the last two years, but what I didn't know early in my career, but experienced first-hand

every day since March 2009, is about the people who make all of this happen ... who make this such a great place. Our dedicated Soldiers and Families that endure our totally predictable, but physically-draining Battle Rhythm and live 34 miles away from the launch point to everywhere. Our DA Civilian and contract employees, some driving 150 miles or more per day or maintain two households to support our Army.

It's all of you who 'Train The Force' everyday with such dedication and passion for the mission that made this assignment special for me. I can't thank you enough! It has been an honor and a privilege to command the Premiere Combat Training Center in the world ... let me rephrase that — it has been an honor to command. The privilege was serving with all of you. The sacrifices and commitment of our Soldiers, Civilians, and Family members is awe inspiring. Thank you all for what you do to support our Army and our mission. I salute you.

Know that as Connie, Robert and I move on, we'll never forget our time here. Also know that the National Training Center and Fort Irwin have no bigger advocate

TRAIN THE FORCE!

Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams Commanding General (Lead 6)

Net Zero



The Army's goal is to manage our resources in a sustainable manner. Net Zero is a holistic approach to addressing energy, water, and waste. The Net Zero approach is comprised of five interrelated steps: reduc-

tion, re-purpose, recycling and composting, energy recovery, and disposal.

STAND-TO

News Release

Reduction includes maximizing facility energy efficiency, implementing water conservation practices, and eliminating unnecessary waste generation. Re-purpose involves diverting energy, water or waste to a secondary purpose with limited processes. Recycling or composting involves management of the solid waste stream, development of closed loop water system, or energy cogeneration. Energy recovery occurs by converting unusable solid waste or thermal energy from a waste water stream to energy. Disposal is the final step after the last drop of water, the last bit of thermal energy and all other waste mitigation strategies have been fully exercised.

What has the Army done?

The Assistant Secretary of the Army for

The Army had several examples of energy-saving technologies on display, including a solar-powered water purifier and a tent with solar cells, during the Association of the United States **Army's Annual Meeting and Exposition** in Washington, D.C.

Installations, Energy and Environment (ASA (IE&E)) has developed the Army's Net Zero Installation Strategy. The goal is for installations to be net zero, based on net zero energy, net zero water and net zero waste, all striving towards sustainable installations. We are creating a culture that recognizes the value of sustainability measures in terms of financial, mission capability, quality of life, local community relationships, and preserving the Army's future options.

What efforts is the Army planning for the future?

In April 2011, ASA (IE&E) will pilot this strategy with five net zero energy installations, five net zero water installations, and five net zero waste installations with one integrated net zero installation. These installations will work to achieve Net Zero by 2020. They will become the centers of energy and environmental excellence, showcasing best practices and demonstrating effective resource management. ASA (IE&E) will then identify an additional 25 installations in each category in FY14, who will strive to achieve net zero by FY30.

Why is this important to the Army?

Net Zero is a force multiplier, enabling the Army to appropriately steward available resources, manage costs and provide our Soldiers, families and civilians with a sustainable future. In an era of persistent conflict, a true stabilizing factor can be that of appropriate resource management. The Net Zero strategy ensures that sustainable practices will be instilled and managed throughout the appropriate levels of the Army, while also maximizing operational capability, resource availability and well-being.

WHO WE ARE

Brig. Gen. Robert B. Abrams Commanding General

Command Sgt. Maj. Nathan Buckner Post CSM

Col. Jim Chevallier Garrison Commander

Command Sgt. Maj. Mark A. Harvey Garrison CSM

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HIGH DESERT WARRIOR

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SUBMISSIONS

Story and photos may be sent to the High Desert Warrior at least two weeks prior to the desired publication date. Items submitted to the High Desert Warrior are always subject to editing. Submissions should include subject's names, ranks and work affiliation (unit or organization) of everyone in the photograph. Group photos of four or more people don't require individual names. Submissions may be e-mailed to the editor at chicpaul.becerra@us.army.mil.

NEWSPAPER AWARDS

2nd Place, 2009 U.S. Army IMCOM-West Newspaper Competition — Tabloid Category

Honorable Mention, 2008 Dept. of the Army Mai. Gen. Keith L. Ware Newspaper Competition — Tabloid category

3rd Place, 2007 U.S. Army IMCOM-West Newspaper Competition — Tabloid Category

SEND US FEEDBACK

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- 1. Your chain of command
- 2. ICE (Interactive Customer Evaluation)
- 3. CG's Hotline: 380-5463

For more information go to www.irwin.army.mil

House Armed Services Committee stress ...

National Training Center important to Armed Forces

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHARLES MELTON

Warrior Staff Writer

Freshman U.S. Representative Scott Rigell, R-Va., has been in Congress less than a month, but during his visit to Fort Irwin and the National Training Center, he stressed the importance of the installation even as Congress considers budget cuts.

Rep. Rigell, who represents Virginia's 2nd District, and eight other members of the House Armed Services Committee led by Chairman Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon, R-Calif., and ranking member Rep. Adam Smith, D-Wash., visited the installation on January 27.

"What was clearly reinforced to me today was the importance of training, the critical importance of realism, making sure that the training is as absolutely realistic as possible and they've done extraordinary things here in making that a different way. We've got to make sure our a reality," Rep. Rigell said. troops are trained to do whatever mission we

The nation is still at war in Iraq and Afghanistan and Rep. Rigell said he believes the Department of Defense needs to continue looking for efficiencies.

"I share the Secretary's (Secretary of Defense Robert Gates) commitment to that, but at the same time not cut critical areas like the training that's taking place out here to ensure that our warfighters are properly trained and prepared when we put them into harm's way," he said.

As the ranking Democrat on the committee, Rep. Smith said he doesn't believe the quest for efficiencies within DoD will impact the training center.

"The training center is critical. The requirements that the military have are met by the training center," he said. "Now if the requirements change, the training center trains in

a different way. We've got to make sure our troops are trained to do whatever mission we give them, so they should continue to have the full support to make sure our troops are ready to go when they into battle, whether it's Iraq, Afghanistan or wherever."

After observing training of the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, which is slated to go to Afghanistan, Rep. Smith said the Soldiers are as well prepared as they can be for the combat zone.

"I've been to Afghanistan and the villages there, and this is about as realistic as you can get in terms of preparing them for the environment they're going to walk into," he said. "This is the best training they could possibly have."

As the new chairman of the committee, Rep. McKeon said the trip provides members of the committee the opportunity to see the training that takes place at the National Training Center and also to get to know each other.



National Training Center and Fort Irwin Command Sgt. Maj. Nathan Buckner talks with Rep. Adam Smith, D-Wash., ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee.

"We just went through a pretty tough election, and I wanted to make sure we continue the culture of bipartisanship we have on the committee, so I asked the ranking member to join me and come out to my district to see things that we have here and then we're going to his district," he said.



House Armed Services Committee chairman Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon, R-Calif., second from right, along with other HASC members, enjoys breakfast with National Training Center and Fort Irwin commanding general Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams and Fort Irwin Soldiers during a visit to Fort Irwin, Calif.

Allowance, from page 1.

12,000 who received aid in 1995 and represents less than 1 percent of the 1.4 million men and women in uniform. Although this program target Families currently on food stamps, all Active and Reserve Component members on active duty with multiple Family Members meeting the income-eligibility requirements may participate in the FSSA program.

Qualification is based on the (U.S. Department of Agriculture) gross monthly income eligibility limits based on household size. However, unlike qualifying for food stamps, the FSSA includes housing allowances in the equation. Also included in determining income eligibility is basic allowance for subsistence or cash equivalents for those living in government housing, all bonuses, special and incentive pays. The stateside COLA, Family separation housing allowance, clothing allowances, and all travel- and transportation-related allowances and

entitlements are not be included in gross income. In order to be considered for FSSA, a member must be entitled to BAS or partial BAS.

Soldiers may go to the DOD website http://www.dmdc. osd.mil/fssa and complete the on-line form to determine if they qualify for FSSA.

Upon completion of the on-line application, print and bring the "qualification" results screen, your Leave and Earning Statement, proof of all household income including special pay, name, date of birth, age and social security numbers of all household members to your local financial counselor for verification.

A verification memo must be taken to your unit PAC for certification and command approval. Upon commander approval, the required FSSA forms are forwarded to the local finance office for processing and the allowance will show up in the member's pay.

Member who are approved must recertify annually and/ or if promoted, household income or family size increases or changes or when making a permanent change-of-station move. FSSA payments count as income and must be included when applying for certain other programs based on income, such as food stamps, school lunch programs, WIC, or earned income tax credits and may affect eligibility.

Soldiers assigned to the Warriors in Transition Unit (WTU) should contact the Soldier and Family Assistance Center (SFAC) Financial Advisor at 380-8381 for further assistance. Other military members assigned to Fort Irwin should contact Army Community Service financial counselor at 380-9194 for further assistance.

Crime Watch

Information provided by Provost Marshal Office

Domestic disturbance (physical). Location: Landmark Inn. Police investigated the report of spouse abuse. Subject was cited into court.

Found contraband. Location: Landmark Inn. Police investigated the report of found marijuana and a smoking pipe. Contraband was confiscated for later destruction.

Larceny of private property (unfounded). Location: Sandy Basin housing. Police investigated the dispute over an iPod. iPod was returned to the owner, no crime.

Damage to government property. Location: Bldg. ####. Civilian manager reported a broken glass window. No subjects were seen or heard.

Public intoxication. Location: Blue track complainant. Police responded to the report of a drunk in public. The drunk, x-employee, was escorted off post.

DUI. Location: Pork Chop Hill. Police stopped a vehicle for driving erratically. The driver displayed the objective symptoms of alcohol intoxication and was apprehended for driving under the influence.

Abandoned child in vehicle. Location: #####. Police responded to the report of a child left unattended in a vehicle. The parent was located and cited.

Domestic disturbance (physical). Location: Bitter Springs housing. Police investigated the report of spouse abuse. Subject was apprehended and released to the subject's unit.

News Briefs

Soldiers', Spouses' Program

The 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment Chaplain's Office introduced new programs for Soldiers who have deployed and their spouses at Fort Irwin, Calif. The programs will feature open group discussions led by a chaplain. The group discussions will provide an open, safe and confidential environment for Soldiers and their spouses to discuss problems. The Warriors' Huddle, for Soldiers who have deployed, will be held Mondays at the Education Center, Room 26, from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. The Spouses' Warrior Huddle, for spouses of Soldiers who have deployed, will be held Tuesdays at the Family Life Center, Building 320, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. For more information regarding the Warriors' Huddle or the Spouses' Warrior Huddle, please contact Sgt. Christina I. Lemburg, 11th ACR chaplain assistant, at 380-4913 or by email at christina.parmeley@us.army.mil.

Sexual Assault Hotline

To make a report of sexual assault to the Sexual Assault Response coordinator, call cell number 362-2198. If you are in need of a victim advocate, the new Installation Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault 24/7 reporting hotline is 267-6792.

Unit PT Areas

Reminder that the housing area is off-limits for unit physical training, this includes all courts (basketball and tennis) and large grassy areas such as the field at the intersection of Barstow Road and Normandy Drive and Cracker Jack Flats. The courts and fields are for residential use only.

In-Processing Relocation

Military Personnel and Finance In-processing Sections have relocated to Bldg. 312, co-located with the AG Replacement. All other Military Personnel Functions remain in Bldg. 561. DEERS and ID Cards section remains in its current location — Bldg. 563.

Operation Battle Blackout

Operation Battle Blackout-Fort Irwin, through its partnership with its electricity provider (Southern California Edison), is calling everyone to voluntarily reduce its peak electricity usage during the critical period of 12 noon to 8 p.m. to support and aid in averting a possible energy emergency. Do your part: conserve energy by cutting down on lighting, electrical, and power usage in your work area or in your home. Encourage your fellow Soldiers, co-workers, and family members to conserve energy every day.

Dental Clinic Open

Dental Clinic 1 (DC1), located in Bldg. 478, 3rd and G Street, is currently open for orthodontic and pediatric care. The officer-in-charge/orthodontist is Maj. Kevyn Wetzel, who handles active duty and very limited family members while the pediatric dentist is Maj. Adam Bushell, who handles children, ages birth-eight-years-of-age. For more information, contact Maj. Kevyn Wetzel, 380-3284.

Speed Limit Changes

The speed limit on Inner Loop Road between Barstow and Goldstone roads has been reduced from 35 mph to 25 mph. All motorists should take note of this change and adjust their speeds accordingly.





Lube Express

Worship Services/Chapel Activities

Recurring Worship Services Center Chapel

Friday

12 noon — Islamic Prayer Service (Bldg 317)

9 a.m. — Catholic Mass (Rosary held before Mass) (Sanctuary)

9:30 a.m. — Protestant Sunday school

11 a.m. — Chapel Next, Contemporary Worship Service

11 a.m. — Protestant Traditional Service (Activity Room, Bldg. 315)

2:15 p.m. — Latter Day Saints Religious Education

3:15 p.m. — Latter Day Saints — Priesthood & Relief Society (Bldg. 317)

Recurring Worship Services Blackhorse Chapel

9 a.m. — Protestant Liturgical Service

11 a.m. — Gospel Service

1 p.m. — Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Worship Service

Wednesday

7 p.m.— Bible study (Gospel)

Thursday 1st & 4th

6 p.m. — Gospel Choir

7 p.m. — Prayer Men of Integrity (Gospel)

Saturday

8 a.m. — Women of excellence 2nd Saturday (Gospel)

8 a.m. — Ministerial Leadership Training

3rd Sunday (Gospel)

Center Chapel Recurring Weekday Programs &

Daily Catholic Mass — Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri. (11:45 a.m.)

CWOC — Catholic Women of Chapel, Thur. (9 a.m.)

PYOC — Protestant Youth, Middle School Mon.

(6-7:30 p.m.)

PYOC — Protestant Youth High School Mon. (7-9 p.m.)

PWOC — Protestant Women of Chapel Tues. (9 a.m.)

and (6 p.m.)

AWANA — Wed. (4 p.m.)

• Business Center

Free Hot Breakfast

Pool & Spa

MOPS — Mothers of Preschoolers 2nd & 4th Wed. (9 a.m.)

LifeTeen & EDGE — Catholic High School Students

Wed. (6:30-8 p.m.)

Jewish Services: Please call Center Chapel at 380-3562

Earth Based Services — Tues (4-8 p.m.) Bldg. 317

Operation Helping Hands Food Pantry: Monday-Thursday:

8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Friday: 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (Closed on Holidays)

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Community Happenings

Farewell Connie Abrams

The Fort Irwin Military and Civilian Spouses' Club invites the community to bid farewell to Connie Abrams, spouse of NTC commanding general Brig. Gen. Robert Abrams, at a fun, pep rally-themed reception, today/Feb. 3, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at Reggie's. Cost is \$12 at the door, and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served. Dress attire is business casual, and you're invited to wear blue and white to honor Mrs. Abram's favorite team, the University of Kentucky Wildcats. For more information, call MCSC President Michelle Garnica at (912) 856-4664.

5K Run/Walk

There will be a 5K Run/Walk on Feb. 12, with run kickoff is at 8 a.m., at the Coyote Activity Center. Call for more information 380-3457.

Free NASCAR Tickets

Service members and their families are invited to register immediately for free tickets to NASCAR racing at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, to be held on March 6. The first 1,000 registrants will receive their free tickets between March 2 and 4. To register, go to http://208.73.50.218/fmi/iwp/cgi?-db=WHT%20 Events&-loadframes.

Irwin Job Fair

Army Community Service will host a job fair at Reggie's, Feb. 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This job fair is FREE and open to the public. Bring copies of your resume and dress professionally. For more information, contact Silvia Moreno at 380-5165.

His Love Letter

Protestant Women of the Chapel will present "His Love Letter" with guest speaker Lindsay Hill, author of "When there's no one else but God," at the Main Chapel, Feb. 8, at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. There will be food, free childcare, and new friendships. For more information, contact pwoc.ftirwin@gmail.com

Children's Sealant Day

In celebration of National Dental Health Month, the Fort Irwin Dental Activity will offer Fort Irwin children (ages 6-15) a Sealant Day. Sealants are a preventive dental measure to help combat cavities in teeth. It is a quick and simple procedure with great benefits towards oral health. Sealant Day will be on Feb. 23, 12-5 p.m., at Dental Clinic No. 1 (located at Bldg. 478, corner of 3rd Street and G Avenue). Children will be seen by appointment only due to limited space. Call the Dental Clinic at 380-3196/3284 and ask for a sealant appointment.

KNTC Headliners

88 3FM

Mon., 7:30-9 a.m.: Sue Jones — "Monday Morning Express"

Mon., 12-1 p.m.: "Ray and Jay's Sports Hour"
Tue., 7:30-9 a.m.: Jackie Hoggins — "Community
Movers and Shakers"

Tue., 12-1 p.m.: Caroline's "Alternative Rock" Hour Wed., 7:30-9 a.m.: Gus — "Cruiz'n with Gus and Newsmakers"

Wed., 12-1 p.m.: 1st Lt. Rob Mark — "11ACR Hour"
Thu., 7:30-9 a.m.: Jason Miller — "Garrison
Community Updates"

Fri., 7:30-9 a.m.: John Wagstaffe — PAO Director

Today's Music with Lexi

Mon., 11 a.m.-noon
Tue., 2-3 p.m.
Thu., 11 a.m.-noon
Fri., 11 a.m.-noon

Wed., 11 a.m.-noon

Auction Donations Wanted

The Fort Irwin Military and Civilian Spouses' Club will host its annual Mardi Gras celebration at Reggie's, Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. This adults-only event features a Voo Doo Lounge, Texas hold 'em and black jack card tables, and live and silent auctions. The community can support the event by donating items for the live and silent auctions. Fun items from previous years included the "Pub in a Tub," "Everything Disney," "James Bond in a Box," and a camping basket. Proceeds will benefit the Fort Irwin community in the form of scholarships and welfare grants. Visit website at mscsftirwin.org to learn more about Mardi Gras and how you can donate an item to the auction, or call Elena at (562) 233-0442. The deadline to donate auction items is Feb. 12.

Dinner Date Specials

Show your loved one a great time with a dinner date. Reggie's will host a Sweetheart's Dinner on Feb. 8 and a Valentine's Day Dinner on Feb. 14, from 5 to 9 p.m. For more information, call 380-5306/6717.

At the Movies

Thursday, Feb. 3

7 p.m. Closed Friday, Feb. 4

7 p.m. Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn

Treader (PG)
7 p.m. Standing Ovation (PG)
9:30 p.m. How Do You Know (PG-13)

9:30 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13) **Saturday, Feb. 5**

7 p.m. Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (PG

Standing Ovation (PG)

9:30 p.m. How Do You Know (PG-13) 9:30 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13)

Sunday, Feb. 6

4 p.m. Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (PG) 7 p.m. Yogi Bear (PG)

7 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13) **Monday, Feb. 7**

7 p.m. Yogi Bear (PG) 7 p.m. How Do You Know (PG-13)

Tuesday, Feb. 8 7 p.m. Closed Wednesday, Feb. 9

7 p.m. Closed

This schedule is subject to change at the last minute to accommodate changes in movies and free showings. ID cards are required from all personnel not in uniform when purchasing movie tickets. For more information and movie updates, call 380-3490.

Super Bowl Party

Watch the Super Bowl at Shock Wave on Feb. 6 and enjoy a pre-game party, door prizes, and give-aways. For more information, call 380-3084.

Ultimate Fighting Championship

Shock Wave is showing UFC 126 on the big screen HD projectors, Feb. 6. Cover charge is \$10 and the show starts at 7 p.m. For more information, call 380-8646.

Teen Workshops Offered

The HIRED! Program will be offering the following workshops for all high school teens registered with CYSS at the Middle School Teen & Center (1313):

Feb. 9, 2 p.m.- 3:30 p.m. — Resumes/Cover Letters (parents must sign an internet permission slip ahead of time, available at MST)

Feb. 23, 2-3:30 p.m. — Mock Interviews

Mar. 9, 2-3 p.m. — Career Exploration (parents must sign an internet permission slip ahead of time, available at MST)

Mar. 23, 2-3 p.m. — College Information (parents must sign an internet permission slip ahead of time, available at MST)

For more information, contact Meagan Wegner, Work Force Preparation specialist, Child, Youth, and School Services, at 380-8412.

Grants, Academic Scholarships

Welfare grants are provided to requesting organizations based on merit and need. During the past two years, Military and Civilian Spouses Club has awarded more than \$42,500 to 78 different grant requests. Apply now if you are a member of an organization that directly or indirectly supports our local community and financial aid could help improve services or programming. Applications are available online at www.mcscftirwin.org. Applications for welfare grants must be postmarked no later than Feb. 23 or hand-delivered by Feb. 25. Last year, MCSC awarded academic scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 to dependents of Soldiers and federal employees. Applications for MCSC academic scholarships are available online at www.mcscftirwin.org. The website describes the eligibility requirements and application procedures in detail. Applications for academic scholarships must be postmarked by March 18 or hand-delivered no later than March 21. For more information, contact Christy Quinter at (484) 332-3866.

Cosmic Bowling

Beginning in February, come down to Strike Zone every Saturday night for glow-in-the-dark cosmic bowling with disco lights while listening to the latest music hits! Cosmic Bowling is only \$20 per person for unlimited bowling from 8 p.m. to midnight. For more information, call 380-4249.

AUSA Chapter Meets

The NTC High Desert Chapter of Association of the U.S. Army invites all members to its monthly membership meeting at the Quality Inn, located on East Main Street, Barstow, on Feb. 8, 8 a.m. Quality Inn will host the meeting with breakfast. For more information, call Cal Phillips, 380-3882.

Cub Scouts

The Cub Scouts is inviting all boys, ages 6 to 10, to join their organization. Cub scouting is a year-round family program designed for boys in 1st through 5th grades. The program emphasizes leadership, community awareness, family understanding, character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness. For more information on how to join the Cub Scouts at Fort Irwin, e-mail: ftirwincubscouts@gmail.com or call Sandy Law at 386-1198.

Meet the Mayors

Community Mayor Newsletters are now found on the web. Go to www.fortirwinfmwr.com to check out the newsletter and know what's going on in your neighborhood. Contact Tony at ACS 380-4784 and see how you can get involved in the Mayor program.

Youth and School Activities

Middle School Activities

Thursday: Cooking Club, Photo Club

Friday: Flags of my nation Monday: African Bracelets

Tuesday: Human Shuffle, Newsletter Club Wednesday: Ultimate Journey, Smart Girls, 4H

Teen Activities

Friday: Word Search Saturday: African Mask

Hours of Operation:

Middle School: M-F 3:15 until 6 p.m.

Teen Center: Friday: 6-11 p.m. Saturday: 3:30-11 p.m. Sundays and Holidays: Closed

More information: Kristin Morgan at 380-3732.

Send Community Happenings briefs at least two weeks inadvance of event to the editor, chicpaul.becerra@us.army.mil



Fort Irwin Community Calendar



Thu., Feb. 3

Big Bear Ski and Snowboard Trip

5:30 a.m. Bldg.976

380-4327

Mon., Feb.7

Warriors' Huddle

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. **Education Center**

Room 26

380-4913

Tue., Feb. 8

PWOC Valentines

Program

9 a.m. & 6 p.m. Center Chapel

380-3562

Wed., Feb. 9

ACS Job Fair

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Reggie's

Bldg. 37

Silvia Moreno

380-5165

Wed., Feb. 9

Blood Drive

11 a.m.-3 p.m. PX Parking Lot

CW2 Hess

380-5421

Wed., Feb. 9

Hired-Teen

Workshop

2-3:30 p.m.

MST Bldg. 1313 Meagan Wegner 380-8412

Sat., Feb. 12

5K Run/Walk

8 a.m.

Coyote Activity Center 380-3457

Tue., Feb.15

Pre-Transition Briefing

12:30 a.m.

Bldg. 552

DHR - 380-3096/3224

Tue., Mar. 8

PWOC International

Tuesday

9 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Center Chapel

Bldg. 315

380-3562

Check out these upcoming activities at Fort Irwin

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- **US-Only Sessions**
 - · Identifying Challenges of Training in All Five Domains
 - Determining LVC Training Alternatives





Fort Irwin Job Fair

Opportunity to meet more than 30 employers

BY SILVIA MORENO

Employment Readiness Program Manager

Are you looking for a job? Do you want to find out what job opportunities there are in the area? Are you transitioning out of the military and looking for your next career?

Come to the Fort Irwin Job Fair and learn about all the exciting job opportunities there are waiting for you. Army Community Service (ACS), in collaboration with the Army Career and Alumni Program (ACAP), is hosting the Fort Irwin Job Fair. The Job Fair will take place on Feb. 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Reggie's (Bldg. 37). The Job Fair is free and open to the public. This event will give you the opportunity to meet more than 30 employers who currently have open vacancies. Some of the companies that will be recruiting include:

- Lockheed Martin
- Union Pacific
- Emergency Medicine Scribe Systems
- Northrop Grumman
- IAP Worldwide Services
- Civilian Personnel Advisory Center
- Non-Appropriated Funds (NAF) Human Resources

- Gavin DeBecker & Associates
- Silver Valley Unified School District
- Teksystems
- Aerotek
- Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA)
- Coca-Cola Co.
- Armed Forces Bank
- Raytheon

- Key Energy Services
-and many more!

In order to be successful at the Job Fair, make sure you come prepared by dressing and acting the part.

You want to put your best foot forward and make a good first impression. Dress in business casual attire, as if you were attend-

ing a job interview. Bring extra copies of your resume and have a pen readily available for any notes. Make the most out of your time with employers.

Tell them about your qualifications and ask them questions about the recruitment process. You never know, you might just find your next job at the Fort Irwin Job Fair.



HIGH DESERT WARRIOR

Army Chief of Staff visits NTC

Post's priority safety issue is traffic

First Command staffer explains the company's mission of assisting customers with financial planning during a past Fort Irwin

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Barstow Station Too • Main St

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Denny's Restaurant • Main St.

Swiss Dairy • 708 East Main St.

Fort Irwin Outreach Center • Barstow Road

Chevron • I-15 and Barstow Road

Circle K • Barstow Road and Rimrock

Stater Bros • 957 Armory Road

Post Office • 2nd St. Terrible's Chevron • 2100 West Main St. **Barstow Motorcycle • West Main St.**



Find us on Facebook Search for Fort Irwin High Desert Warrior Irwin Tax Center opens, offers ...

Free Tax Preparation

FORT IRWIN TAX CENTER

News Release

The Fort Irwin Tax Center is open! This year, the tax program has been completely overhauled to better serve the Fort Irwin community. There are more preparers (which means shorter lines); and the Tax Center is open later, and on Saturdays during BRD and RSOI weeks - so that you actually have time to do your taxes when you are not in the field. On top of all of this, the staff of the Fort Irwin Tax Center is more qualified than ever. Every preparer has been certified by the IRS, and works under the supervision of an attorney with a specialized degree from the 2nd ranked graduate tax law program in the nation the University of Florida.

Unless your return is extremely complicated, there is absolutely no reason not to have your taxes done at the Fort Irwin Tax Center. The staff is qualified, understands your mission, and best of all...it's free! No one else on post can offer you that deal.

The Tax Center is located in Bldg. 288, on Barstow Road, right across from the Military Police Station. The Tax Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, during training days 1-14; and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, during BRD and RSOI weeks. Regarding the closing times — if you are in the building when the Tax Center closes, the staff will work with you until your return is complete. We are committed to supporting you. Walk-ins are always welcome, but feel free to call 380-3604 to make an appointment.







Staff Sgt. Alex Martinez, 58th Combat Engineer Company, and his wife, Dominique Martinez, get help with their taxes from Pvt. Brandon Benson, 699th Maintenance Company, Jan. 24. The tax center will be open until April 19 to provide free assistance with tax preparation and e-filing. It is located in Bldg. 288 on Barstow Road.

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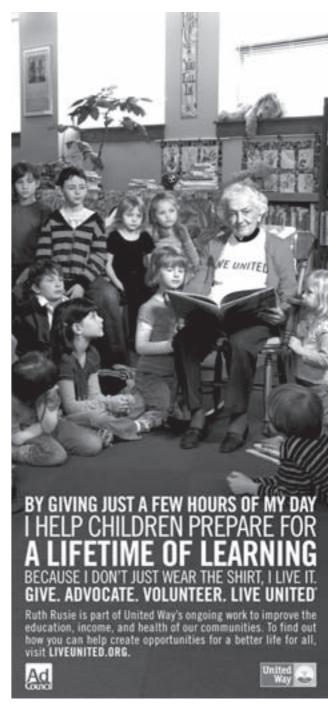
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Brig. Gen. Abrams reflects ...

on tenure at National Training Center

BY CHARLES MELTON

Warrior Staff Writer

National Training Center and Fort Irwin commanding general Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams can't look at any one thing and say it's what he's most proud of during his nearly two years in command in the High Desert.

Brig. Gen. Abrams will relinquish command to Brig. Gen. Terry Ferrell on Monday.

"There's so many things the National Training Center has accomplished over the last two years that to neck it down to one thing would be a disservice to everyone," he said.

One thing he has seen occur during the past two years is the emergence of a unity of effort across all the different organizations on Fort Irwin, he noted, which has helped the training center continue to adapt and remain ahead of the requirements in training units for deployment.

"The amount of adaptation that has occurred in the last two years has been phenomenal and that's certainly not me doing it," he said. "It's that combination of everyone, all hands rowing at the same time, giving way together to ensure that we are providing that tough, realistic relevant training that makes NTC the premiere training center in the world."

The past year has been marked by transition as rotations have gone from being Iraq-focused to Afghanistan-focused with a full-spectrum rotation coming in seven months.

"We've done all this with an eye to the future because clearly our mission here is preparing units for deployment," he said. "We don't ever want to lose sight of that, but the truth is, in this last year, we've had to have our eye to the future."

Rotation 11-09, the first full spectrum rotation against a hybrid threat, is going to be here in seven months, he said.

"So while we've simultaneously been prepping units for combat, the team here at NTC has set the conditions for a great hybrid threat rotation," he said.

Although much of his focus has been on training at Fort Irwin, Brig. Gen. Abrams noted that almost every month during his command has been punctuated by a ribbon-cutting of either a new facility or renovated facility to improve the quality of life for the Soldiers, families, civilians and contractors who work out in the High Desert.

Yet, one stands out of the rest: Fort Irwin becoming a formal member of the Inland Country Emergency Medical Agency (ICE-MA) in June 2010, he said.

"We have paramedics on post. We have paramedics and air ambulance. We have a communications architecture for us to plug into the San Bernardino Emergency Management Activity," he said. "That was long overdue, more so than moving the headquarters, because we all know that the nearest trauma facilities are over 160 miles away."

The emergency medical response capability was essential, and even it though it came about as the result of a tragedy, it was the right thing to do, he said.

"That capability has saved lives and will continue to save lives," he said.

Fort Irwin and the National Training Center and Fort Irwin entered the Social Media realm during Brig. Gen. Abrams' tenure, and he admitted he's still scratching the surface himself.

"I personally embrace it. It's just part of our life in my house. It's how we stay connected," he said. "We train units how to flatten their network to be able to attack enemy networks. We've got to get everybody on post to flatten our network and embrace this thing."

While the training center has made progress, there's still more work to do, he said, noting, "Communications is critical especially on this little desert oasis we live in."

Before Brig. Gen. Abrams set foot on the ground in the High Desert he said he knew what made the training center work wasn't the technology, things, stuff, buildings and so forth, but the people.

"What makes this place work is we've got the very best military and civilian leaders. We've got great Soldiers and DA civilians, and we've got a great contract workforce and it takes all of them collectively to pull off what we do," he said. "The high quality we deliver is a function of the people we have, not the stuff, not the buildings, not the technology; it is about the people."

At the end of every rotation Brig. Gen. Abrams said he sits back and reflects on what it is that the training center puts into the training, and said he's always astounded at the amount of energy, effort, expertise, commitment, selflessness, dedication from everybody.

"You can see in their eyes that everybody involved gives their all every rotation; you can see it their faces," he said.

Yet all of that effort requires a great deal of sacrifice by families because for all those people that give that amount of commitment and dedication that means they're not with their family, he said.

"We've got desert tough, resilient families at Fort Irwin who continue to sacrifice and contribute to our mission here, and I am humbled by what they do, what they sacrifice, and what they do for our country," Brig. Gen. Abrams said. "It's not insignificant what they give up to come out and support their Soldier, and live out here in the High Desert. I'll be forever appreciative of all the sacrifice of everybody out here. It's just been impressive."



When U.S. Forces Command (FORSCOM) commander, Gen. James D. Thurman, was honored with a Place in Desert, National Training Center and Fort Irwin commanding general Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams, presented him with a plaque marking the occasion on Nov. 12, 2010.



During his tenure as the commanding general of the National Training Center and Abrams was actively involved in the community. In June 2009, Brig. Gen. Abrams was dog, Shiner, as the family read the Army birthday story to children at the Fort Irwin C



A firm believer in improving communication throughout the installation during his tenure as the commanding general of the National Training Center and Fort Irwin, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams often appeared on the installation's radio station, 88.3 FM KNTC "The Heat," as he did with NTC/Fort Irwin Media Relations Officer "Electric" Etric Smith in February 2010.



Fort Irwin, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" joined by his wife, Connie, and their hild Development Center.



As the only active-duty commanding general in California, Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams often attended funeral services for deceased active-duty Soldiers and veterans including Medal of Honor recipient Col. Lewis "Lee" Millett, who passed away in November 2009. In this photo, Brig. Gen. Abrams renders a salute to Col. Millett's son, Lewis Millett, Jr. at the **Riverside National Cemetery in** Riverside, Calif.

Tax deductions available to Army contractors

BY DENNIS BOHANNON

Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installation, Energy and Environment

PENTAGON, Washington D.C. — Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment (ASA IE&E) has signed a policy that will enable and help civilian Army contractors in validating and obtaining tax deductions.

The Honorable Ms. Katherine Hammack signed the Army's Building Energy Efficiency Tax Deduction Policy on Dec. 17, 2010. The policy will assist Army contractors in validating and obtaining tax deductions for the costs of installing certain energy efficient building systems in Army buildings.

The tax deductions were authorized in Section 179D, which was part of the 2005 Energy Policy Act. The tax deductions for contractors are up to \$1.80 per square foot. Building envelope, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) and hot water (SHW) systems, and lighting can qualify for 1/3 of the deduction (60¢ per square foot). Most buildings qualify for one of the three portions of the deduction.

"The Army is exploring ways to achieve its energy security and sustainability goals by pursuing energy efficiency and cost savings at our installations," said Ms. Hammack. "This is an incentive for Army contractors to focus their efforts on energy efficiency."

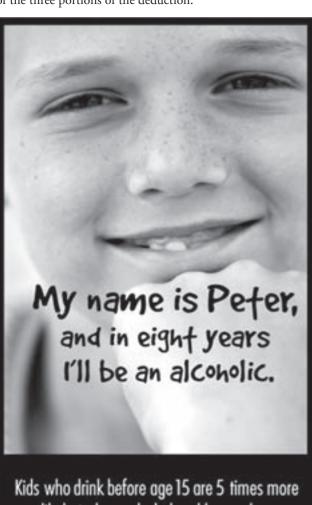


The Army is committed to assigning the deduction to qualified contractors who are supporting the Army's energy efficiency goals. The Army seeks to derive greatest value from building energy efficiencies developed and implemented by its contractors.

The Army encourages its installation and industry partners to implement cutting-edge technologies and novel approaches.

The U.S. Army Installation Management Command (IMCOM) is developing guidance and training to support the tax deduction initiative. Subject matter experts will be discussing specifics and answering questions during an Energy Forum at the Association of Defense Communities' Winter Conference in San Antonio, Feb. 16, 2011. The forum is expected to begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Grand Hyatt Hotel on the River Walk.

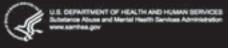
Army contractors are encouraged to pursue the tax deduction and work with their respective contract officer representatives. The ASA IE&E Policy can be viewed at www.asaie.army.mil . The Internal Revenue Bulletin: 2008-14 can be viewed at http://www.irs.gov/irb/2008-14_IRB/ar12.html .



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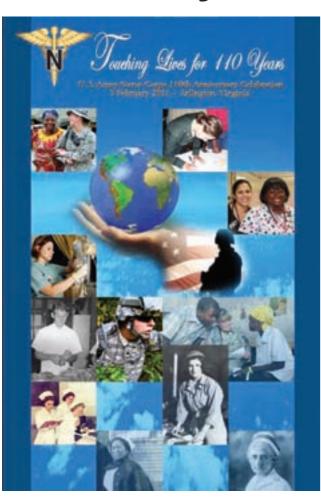
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Army Nurse Corps celebrates 110 years



RMY NURSE CORPS

News Release

February 2, 2011 marks the 110th anniversary of the inception of the Army Nurse Corps. The celebration in the National Capital Region will be held on Saturday/Feb. 5 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia. The theme for this anniversary celebration is "Touching Lives for 110 Years" and we would like to welcome all to attend.

The Army Nurse Corps has a wonderfully rich history. Both men and women have served as Army nurses since 1775; however the Nurse Corps did not become part of the Army Medical Department until 1901 when the Army Reorganization Act was passed and became law.

In the early years, Army nurses were assigned to hospitals in the United States and overseas. Following the 1906 earthquake in San Francisco, Army nurses were at the fore front of a civil relief mission for the first time, working around the clock to provide care to thousands of earthquake victims.

The Army Nurse Corps grew, relying on a strong base of quality care delivery, a history of selfless service, and touching lives of those entrusted to our care. When the United States entered World War I in 1917, there were only 4,093 nurses on active duty. Patriotism, valor, and the desire to serve resulted in amazing growth of the Army Nurse Corps. By 1918, there were 21,460 Army nurses serving in base, evacuation and mobile surgical hospitals in the United States and all over the globe to include France, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. Army nurses also tended the sick and wounded on hospital trains in France and on transport ships that carried the wounded across the

Atlantic Ocean. Army nurse engagement in ensuring the warriors made it home safely was the start of nurse's involvement in enroute care. World War I advanced nursing practice; Army nurses were used as nurses' anesthetists for the first time through a partnership with Mayo Clinic in Minnesota.

The Army Nurse Corps continued to grow after World War I and by 1945; there were 57,000 Army nurses on active duty. Military nurse innovation contributed to advancing nursing practice worldwide and continues to set the standard during times of peace and war. In Europe, Army nurses assisted in developing the concept of recovery wards for immediate postoperative nursing care. Shock, blood replacement and resuscitation were better understood and enroute care advanced to air evacuation from the combat zone on fixed wing aircraft.

Army nurses continued to lead the way in advancing nursing practice while caring for combat troops in Korea and Vietnam. Trauma care specialization, as well as shock/trauma units developed as the UH-1H helicopter ambulance transported patients from battle locations. This care included triage and resuscitative services for casualties.

Today nearly 40,000 individuals represent the triad of Army Nursing: Active Component, Reserve Component and National Guard officers, non-commissioned officers, enlisted and civilians. These individuals are challenged to step up every day to be more than a nurse; they are the symbol of the country proudly serving their profession around the globe. The ANC has been and continues to be in every major conflict that the United States has taken part in and serves as a critical factor in the outcome of the health of our service members and their families that support them. As we celebrate our past 110 years and engage in the present, while looking forward to the future, we invite you to come celebrate with us.

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Patient Centered Medical Home

Concept focuses on promoting optimal health

BY LT. COL. HEATHER GUESS

Weed Army Community Hospital Chief, Mary Walker Clinic

Have you ever wished that you knew your health care provider? Would you like to see the same doctor more than once? Army Medicine in general and Weed Army Community Hospital (WACH) in particular have heard these dreams.

The Dr. Mary E. Walker Center (MEWC) has recently reorganized and established three Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) teams. The PCMH model has been endorsed by the American Academy of Family Physicians and other medical governing bodies. The concept is to have a multi-disciplinary health clinic that focuses on promoting optimal health and not just on disease treatment. Adopting the PCMH model will result in: improved access, higher level of patient satisfaction, increased levels of patient education, better quality health

care and improved Soldier and family medical readiness. In addition, since this model is being promoted across all military branches and the Veterans Affairs (VA), beneficiaries will have a better understanding of how their health care system works as they permanently change stations around the world.

The core of the PCMH model is the assignment of each patient to a primary care manager (PCM) and to a primary care team.

The MEWC has been divided into three teams: Blue, Green and Gold. Each team has four to five PCMs, a dedicated registered nurse, non-commissioned officer-in-charge, front desk clerk and at least one licensed practical nurse/nursing assistant/medic for each provider. Together, they form a cohesive team to manage the needs of each patient. Each team was deliberately set up to have at least one family practice physician, a pediatrician, an internal medicine physician and either a

nurse practitioner or physician assistant. This ensures each team can also meet the needs of each family. The MEWC page of the WACH website is being updated to show beneficiaries which providers are on each team.

The single best outcome of PCMH is improved continuity.

When a patient calls for an appointment, they will be booked with their PCM if at all possible. If not, they will be booked with someone else on the same team. Only under very rare circumstances will they be booked with another team. This ensures continuity, improves communication and makes each patient a "partner" in their own health care. When people feel they have a voice in their care, when they understand options, they are much more compliant with treatment goals and much more satisfied with their care.

The PCMH model recognizes that physical and emotional health issues often go hand in

hand. Another core concept of the PCMH is embedding Behavioral Health (BH) assets in each of the three primary care teams.

When MEWC reorganized, space was allocated for a BH provider to be in each team. To date, not all of these spaces have been filled. Why dedicate the space if the positions are still vacant? The need is that important! Statistics show that 70 percent of primary care visits are related to BH issues and that 90 percent of BH medications are prescribed in primary care settings. One small Navy study showed that 70 percent of their patients who used and benefited from embedded BH assets, stated they would not have gone to BH if they were given a consult.

Access to your team can be accomplished in a number of ways. Most patients call the 1 (866) 460-5305 Central Appointments line. Appointments can also be booked online through www.tricareonline.com.



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up today. Then when an AMBER the Alert, call 911. If your phone is

wireless, you're no longer helpless.

A child is calling for help.

Protect employees from workplace bullying

BY VALENCIA R. BARNES

Army Substance Abuse Program
Employee Assistance Program Coordinator

Most recently, we have seen or heard many stories of bullying involving school-aged children. Unfortunately, school-age children aren't the only ones with this problem. Workplace bullying is common. In a 2007 WIO-Zogby poll, 37 percent of American adults reported being bullied at work. Seventy-seven percent of those victims left their jobs to avoid the negative effects of bullying.

Workplace bullying has been defined in several ways: repeated or unreasonable actions of individuals (or a group) directed towards an employee (or a group of employees), which is intended to intimidate and creates a risk to the health and safety of the employees; the assertion of power through aggression.

Some examples of workplace bullying are: intimidating a person; excluding or isolating someone socially; undermining or deliberately impeding a person's work; constantly changing work guidelines; shouting at or humiliating a person; yelling or using profanity; blocking a person's applications for training, leave or promotion; assigning unreasonable duties or workload which are unfavorable to one person (in a way that creates unnecessary pressure); criticizing a person persistently or constantly; tampering with a person's personal belongings or

work equipment; unwarranted (or undeserved) punishment; blaming a person without factual justification; intruding on a person's privacy by pestering, spying or stalking; physically abusing or threatening abuse. This list is not exhaustive.

Workplace bullying is detrimental to victims and business.

Victims of workplace bullying experience significant mental and physical problems which can include: high stress; sleep disturbances; digestive problems; increased depression/self-blame; anger; loss of appetite; feelings of frustration and or helplessness; inability to concentrate; family tension; low morale and productivity. Businesses suffer as well. Some of the effects of workplace bullying on companies include: increased absenteeism; increased employee turnover; increased stress; increased risks for accidents/incidents; increased cost for Employee Assistance Programs, employee recruitment; decreased productivity and motivation; decreased morale; decreased; reduced corporate image and customer confidence; poorer customer service.

Unlike harassment, workplace bullying is not illegal.

Seventeen states are in the process of considering bills that would attempt to protect employees from workplace bullying. Management can help prevent workplace bullying by developing comprehensive written policies and ensuring that all employees read and understand them.



New BOSS president off to fast start ...

Supporting Fort Irwin community

STORY AND PHOTO BY CHARLES MELTON

Warrior Staff Writer

Although Sgt. Quentin Davis has only been the National Training Center and Fort Irwin Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) president for two weeks, he's already making a positive impact.

With the installation's emphasis on eliminating DUIs and drunk driving, Sgt. Davis has implemented the BADD (BOSS Against Drunk Driving) program, which provides free rides to either the barracks or post housing areas from the Shockwave and the Strike Zone from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. for those patrons who believe they are too intoxicated to drive home.

The program will be after the rotation initially, but if it proves successful, it will be expanded, he said.

The program is in keeping with one of the three pillars of the BOSS program, which are: quality of life, recreation and leisure and community service, he said. The phone number for the program is 380-3856 and its e-mail is fortirwin@rocketmail.com. Nine Soldiers will staff the shuttle service.

"Before I go outside the post, I want to make sure I take care of inside the post," he said, noting that many Soldiers are unaware of the activities and opportunities already offered on the installation.

Instead of waiting for Soldiers to come to places like the paintball range, Outdoor Recreation Center, and Ingalls Recreation Center, Sgt. Davis said he is taking the programs to them, including the Green Flag West Air Force unit and Reservists on the installation.



Sgt. Quentin Davis

"The Air Force and Reservists didn't have a BOSS representative, so I introduced myself and now they have a BOSS representative," he said. "I'm building a community."

Each part of the community will receive a piece of the BOSS pie and there will always be something to do as long as I am the BOSS president, Sgt. Davis said.

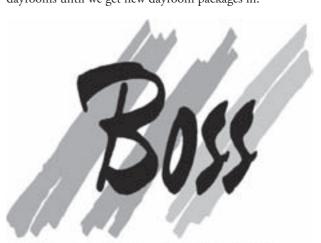
In the coming days, weeks and months, Sgt. Davis said Soldiers will notice an abundance of things to do through the BOSS program.

"Right now we're working on something with the All-Star weekend coming up and March Madness," he said. "We're also going to have our own BOSS basketball team. We'll be travelling all over California."

In order to defray the expenses of the upcoming trips, Sgt. Davis said a variety of fundraisers will take place to make it easier for more Soldiers to participate.

While off-post trips are planned, the BOSS program is also working to improve the dayrooms in the barracks, which is a major complaint of Soldiers living in the barracks, he said.

"Right now, we have a donation program," he said. "Some of the recreation centers and gyms have extra equipment and stuff, and I go around and see if they will donate it to the dayrooms until we get new dayroom packages in."



"Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers"

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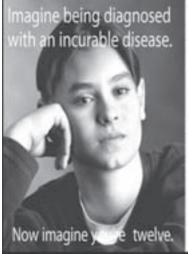
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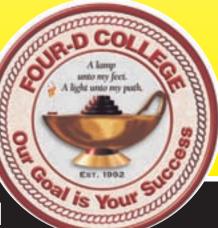
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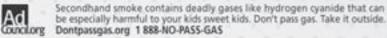
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